


JP
Rev. A. A. Phelps

Single & Paid 

Boston.

Ms. A. 2. 1. 11
p. 14

that my affairs, ~~health~~ &c. will permit me to remain
much longer in my present relation to the cause.
(However this enter not.) I am yet undecided whether
I go to England or not. The probability is growing
that I will. Mr. Stanton will go with me if I do.
He just now informs me that he wrote to you today.
I am glad he did - and especially in relation to
Mr. Torrey's efforts to secure a call of a National
Convention. I hope you will write to Mr. T.
as H. B. F. has requested you to do. I think
Mr. T. is hardly sufficiently known to take
such a matter as the call of a Convention in hand.

Judging from the abolitionist's account of your
new Society's success I should suppose you were
going on well. The transaction at Andover shows
to what desperation your opponents are reduced.
They will wholly blow out of a good temper toward
them is preserved and they can be foiled in their
attempts at the anniversary. In the event of their not
succeeding then, they will very soon give us but little trouble.
yours very truly
James G. Birney.

I can however give you my own views. If the Non-
resistants can be completely foiled - the present
Committee reappointed - and the restrictive resolu-
tion rescinded all may again go well. I think, should
this take place, the State Societies before the end of
the next year will, pretty much have removed
all difficulty that lies in our way. There need be no
conflict, if both the Ex. Com. & the State Societies
be left perfectly free. This is the best way of avoiding
all collision. All that the State Societies want
now is to get out of debt.

But if it should turn out, that the control
of the Society should pass into the hands of the Non-
resistants, it will at once fix its doom. It will
be the disposition of the whole concern. The
men who are to carry this cause will never
unite with them. In that event - which, by the
by, I do not now much fear - a new organization
will, of course, be necessary, and it can at once
be entered on.

So far as I am concerned, I do not know,

New-York, Feb. 4/40

James G. Birney

14

Dear bro Phelps,

I am much obliged to you for your letter, in answer to mine making enquiry about the money that was intended for Mrs. Wisner. I suppose, it is all right and that she has received it.

I owe you an apology for sending you a letter on my own business without paying the postage on it. It was through inadvertence. After it was too late I thought of it. I must hold myself your debtor for the amount.

[You ask what our Ex. Committee intend doing? I can scarcely say. The Eastern Penna. A. G. Y. at once responded to the call for money made on them by the Am. Society. They seem very friendly disposed. We have received answers from no other Society.

I think our Committee will hold on as well as they can till the Anniv^y. But in saying what they will do, I speak not by authority.